**Quote Bank for “Hidden in America”**

**Bill Januson**

To his boss at the restaurant, Oscar: “Could you get me some more hours?” and he replies, “Thirty’s all I got.”

To Dr. Millerton about Willa: “She’s embarrassed having a friend’s dad for a doctor.”

To Dr. Millerton about his situation raising two children alone: “I cross my eyes every once in a while, but they come first, you know.”

To Robbie when he sees his father counting money and asks how they are doing: “Broke or busted, take your pick. … “We’ll make it.”

Advertising for job at Target is for 40 hours/week and is a day job but Bill admits at interview that he has no retails experience or high school diploma: “I’m a jack of all trades.”

To Dr. Millerton explaining why he missed Willa’s clinic appointment: “I’m working a double shift.”

When told that Willa has anemia and poor nutrition: “I’m an inadequate provider.”

To Robbie and Willa when they pass a food bank with a line outside: “You’ll never catch me taking a handout. That’s what’s wrong with this country. People don’t want to work for a living.”

To Robbie who wants to open another can of food from the almost empty pantry cabinet: “If you eat that tonight, what are you going to have tomorrow?”

To Dr. Millerton who comes to pick up Caroline and asks why Bill is upset: “I’m an inadequate provider.”

When offered free medicine from Dr. Millerton, he says he can’t cover them and insists: “I appreciate your wanting to help my family, but I want to help my family. I can’t expect someone in your situation to understand that I had a house, a good job, the whole 9 yards. I’m not a bum.”

After getting the job in the fancy restaurant, he tells his children: “We’re not going to be hurting for food.”

To restaurant manager when he loses his job and temper: “You shouldn’t give a man a job and then take it away. I got kids.

In response to Dr. Millerton’s offer for help: “There’s people a lot worse off than us who need the help”

When Dr. Millerton offers again, he says: “Help, what do you mean help? I’m no welfare loser. You ever feed your family from a food bank? I’m feeling somehow that I’m supposed to be accountable to you. What are you trying to do? Embarrass me in front of my kids?”

To Dr. Millerton when he invites Bill’s family over for a BBQ on Sunday: “I can’t digest charity food.”

Tells his children about the lost restaurant job: “I had that job, I had it.”

When Robbie complains that Willa is getting sicker, he tells his kids: "You are supposed to trust me to take care of you like I always have. ... I used to pull down $16.25 an hour. I worked 17 years at that plant. Don't you forget that."

Tells his son who is angry and challenging him: "You're just another mouth to feed. You can't even keep it shut when you ought to."

To Michael after the BBQ meal: "Thanks for inviting us and for setting up that job interview."  ... "I probably should have taken you up on the offer [of help] the last time."

Explaining how he lost his job at the Michigan GM autoplant: "Never went on disability, never cheated the system, worked my butt off."

To Dr. Millerton at his home: "We don't have a pot to piss in. ... You know how you're brought up to think that a father is a bread winner.  Before we came here. We hadn't eaten since yesterday. And, I never thought this would ever happen. I work all my life and now I can't provide for my family."

At the government office:  "This is the first time I am applying for food stamps."

When he is told about delays in receiving assistance: "My girl's sick from not eating enough."

During welfare interview he is asked what happened to his assets and says:  "That money's long gone. ... The money went to pay hospital bills. ... You think I'm a thief."

Without his kids, Bill goes to North Seattle Food Bank: "I'm picking up for a friend ... who is sick; got a bad ticker."

When questioned by Food Bank worker, Bill admits the help is for him: "I wouldn't be down here if it wasn't for my kids. ...  This is temporary."

After dropping off application for hospital job, Millerton offers him a loan which Bill refuses:  "Wouldn't be right."  ... "You don't know nothing about [my struggle]."

At hospital, Bill confides to Dr. Millerton: "That's my son. I don't know if I can handle this alone. He was always such a happy kid."

When asked why Robbie tried to hurt himself : "He must have thought I'd given up. Maybe I did for a while."

When his son admits to taking the money, he tells him:  "Robbie, everything's going to be okay.  ... We can make this right.  I love you.  I'm always going to be here for you.

To Dr. Millerton at his home after the BBQ: “We hadn’t eaten since yesterday” and “A year ago, I had a house. I worked all of my life, now I can’t provide for my family.”

**Willa Januson**

About eating dinner from Food Bank:  "It's not so bad, Robbie. It's not so bad."

To Robbie who is very depressed about losing the car: "Are you all right, Robbie?  Want to read a comic book to me or go play in the hall?  I'll let you scare me, and I promise not to cry.  Talk to me, Robbie, say something. You didn't used to be like this, Robbie."

**Robbie Januson**

After Willa’s visit to the clinic he asks his dad: “Is Willa going to be all right?”

When he learns that his dad might get a job as a rookie in a new plant: “That’s not right. You’re better than that.”

His dad says that he will take care of the work front but Robbie suggests: “You should learn about cyberspace, then you could get a job.”

To Dr. Millerton when he runs after his car to get Willa’s bookbag: “You’re the doctor she saw right? She stays sick. She doesn’t get better.”

To Gus about fixing the car: “Want to be partners in on it?”

When discussing his plans about how to use the money from the car: “Help my dad.”

After his dad loses the restaurant position, Robbie blames him by telling Dr. Millerton: “Yeah, and he quit his other job, too.”

Asks Gus: “Can a man be worth his salt if he doesn’t have a job?”

Upon learning that father has accepted charity, he tells his dad: “A man’s not a man unless he pulls his weight.”

After school to father: I'm hungry, I hate this. ... Willa is sick all of the time. There's never enough to eat."

When he realizes that his dinner is from the Food Bank:  "So, we're not better than this?... You said that we didn't need to do this; that we were better than this.  You lied.  You said we would never take handouts. "

Before he steals the rent money to get a part for the car, he tells Gus:  "We've got to sell this car!"

When he see his father at home in the apartment:  "I thought you were out looking for work." ... "I don't want to live like this anymore."

When his father tells him that he is a bum for dropping out of school, Robbie challenges: "I'll go back when you get a job."

When he learns the "bad news" from Gus: "Can't we fix it up? How bad can it be?" ... "No, you don't understand."

Before he tries to hurt himself, Robbie writes on the mirror: “One less mouth to feed.”

**Michael Millerton**

To the doctor about betting his coverage at the community clinic, “No way I’m giving up three days for that clinic. … You think I’m crazy enough to give away my free time on a baseball stat?”

To Bill while looking for a measuring tape, “They usually have one around here.”

To Bill about his job at Satellite Burgers: “I lived on those burgers during medical school.”

To Bill when he learns that his wife is dead: “I don’t see how I could raise my two kids on my own.”

To Robbie who expresses concern about Willa: “I gotta get to the hospital. Why don’t you tell your father to bring her to the clinic tomorrow. See what I can do.”

After his wife starts discussing his father’s attitude about working in the clinic:

“He probably thinks he trained me better than to give my skills away.”

Goes to help Bill and offers medicine: “Your kid is a friend of my kid.”

When medical colleague offers to cancel bet: “I’ll finish.”

When he picks up Caroline after Bill loses his temper, Dr. Millerton asks: “Is there anything I can do to help?”

Trying to persuade Bill to accept his offer of help: “You have had quite a string of bad luck lately. I mean there’s no shame in getting some help.”

To his wife, after trying to help Bill: “Bill doesn’t want my help. I wish we could do something.”

After discussing Bill’s situation, Michael tells his wife, “There’s no way I could live with what he has every day of his life.”

To his wife, when he thinks about Bill: "There is no way I could live with what he has to live with every day of his life."

When asked if he is staying at the clinic: "I'm considering staying on there [the clinic] for a while. But I'm trying to keep a low profile."

**Dee Millerton**

To her husband about his work in the clinic: “I think your father thinks I put you up to working in the free clinic.”

To her husband: “I saw Willa take some food today. I didn’t know what to do. I mean I didn’t let her know that I saw her, but I don’t know if that was the right thing. Maybe I should have talked to her. … It makes me want to have her here for every meal, every single day. I wish there was a mom, someone to relate to.”

When her husband asks if Willa has been around: "You can't stop thinking about that family."

When her husband questions whether he should be more helpful: "Yes, you are privileged and you should never forget it. But you can use it well or not and maybe that's the grace."

To the grandparents: "Willa's a busing student and a friend of Caroline's. ... "I just feel bad for the little girl."